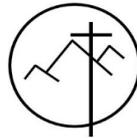


**DATE: January 25, 2026**

**4th Sunday of Epiphany  
Sermon Theme: Bearing Witness**

**Congregational Hymn: #714: Let There be Light  
Offering and Prayer: Offertory: Jay Liew**

Mountain Community Mennonite Church  
Box 502  
Palmer Lake, CO 80133  
(719) 481-3155



Join Us – We share God’s love by: Following Jesus,  
Reconciling Community and Building Peace  
**“We are a new creation in Christ - leading us in the  
ministry of peace and reconciliation.”  
2 Corinthians 5**

**DATE: January 25, 2026  
Palmer Lake**

**9:00 am: Worship Begins  
Discussion**

**Lead Pastor:** Vern Rempel

Pastor Vern’s email: [vkrempel@gmail.com](mailto:vkrempel@gmail.com)  
Pastor Vern’s Blog: [soulreport.WordPress.com](http://soulreport.WordPress.com)  
Pastor Vern’s political blog is  
at [mennopol.wordpress.com](http://mennopol.wordpress.com). Recent posts include:  
“Deadly Metal” & “Incarceration Addiction.”  
**Elders:** Barb Eichelberger, Dwight Landes  
**Information Technology Support:** Wilmer Villacorta  
*Please silence your cell phones. Thank You.*

*There will be a time of quiet meditation when the  
music stops at 9:00 am prior to the start of worship.  
We invite you to join in this time of silence before our  
service begins.*

**Sermon downloads available at <http://mcmcp.org>**

**MEETING SCHEDULE:** Worship begins at 9:00 at Palmer  
Lake every 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of month.  
Worship begins at 10:30 at Dry Creek on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of  
month.

**Speaker: .....Melissa Roth  
Worship Leader:.....Rae Shellenberger  
Song Leader:.....Don Graber  
Sound room: .....Lynn Roth**

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome  
Announcements  
Time of Quieting**

**Call to Worship:**  
**Leader: Come, people of God—the dawn is breaking!  
A new day rises where sorrow had settled in.**  
People: The dawn is breaking—and we rise with it.  
**Leader: Where burdens have bent us low,  
the Holy One draws near, steadying our steps.**  
People: The Holy One draws near—  
and we gather our courage.  
**Leader: Where yokes have weighed on shoulders and  
spirits, God is loosening what has held us down.**  
People: What held us down is lifting—  
and we move toward freedom.  
**Leader: Come, all who yearn for justice;  
all who hope for healing; all who hunger for joy.**  
People: We come to the dawning way, we come to the  
hopeful way, we come to the way God makes glorious.

**WE GROW IN WORSHIP**

**Opening Prayer  
Opening Hymn: #764: O For a Thousand Tongues  
#218: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

**Prayers of the people and sharing the grace.....**

**Prayer for Transformation and New Life:**  
Holy Companion of our difficult days, you call us toward  
what is new even when we feel worn or uncertain.  
We confess the weight we carry—worries we rehearse,  
the fears we nurture, the habits that hold us tight,  
patterns we cling to, the moments we turn from  
compassion, the truths we avoid. Unbind what tightens  
around our hearts. Lift what has grown too heavy.  
Make room in us for generosity, justice, and the courage to  
begin again. Shape us for your healing work as this new  
day unfolds. Amen.

**Scriptures:** Isaiah 9: 1-4, Psalm 27: 1, 5-13  
**Sermon:** Clarity, Resistance, Hope  
**Communion**

**WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

**Sending Song: #831 Blest be the Tie That Binds  
Sending Prayer**

*If you would like to support this gathering financially, you  
may give a check, payable to Mountain Community  
Mennonite Church, or cash, or give on-line. PayPal -  
[mcmctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mcmctreasurer@gmail.com) (Icon is a picture of the Palmer  
Lake church from the lower parking lot.)*

**Your worship service today was planned by the MCMC  
Worship Commission.**

*Please return the hymnals to boxes provided at back of  
sanctuary. Thank you.*

### **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Ken Smith B.....January 31  
Jake Eichelberger B.....February 1  
Lynn Roth B.....February 14  
Mary Johnson B.....February 17

### **MCMC**

Faith and Life Forum.....March 7

### **MOUNTAIN STATES MENNONITE CONFERENCE**

**Save the date** for next year's assembly: July 24-26, 2026, in beautiful Boulder, CO.

#### ***Belonging and Boundaries: The beauty and challenge of intergenerational connections***

Forming strong bonds across generations is more important than ever in our faith communities. Research suggests that meaningful relationships and mentorships are what draw us in and keep us engaged in church through the ups and downs.

But how do we foster conversation and connection without leaving undue room for harms like manipulation or child abuse to occur? What's the balance between precaution and pragmatism?

Join Ross Erb, MSW, Associate Director of the Collins Child Advocacy Center, and Moriah Hurst, Pastor of Child, Youth, and Adult Faith Formation at Assembly Mennonite Church, for a discussion and training on best practices for ministries that connect people of all ages.

A keynote and discussion on the opportunities and challenges of intergenerational relationships in our churches will be held in the morning, with a training on child/youth protection in the afternoon.

*MSMC Congregations: Please send at least one person from your congregation to represent you at the afternoon*

*training, preferably a pastor, church chair, or children/youth ministry leader.*

*Registration is now open.*

*Click here to [REGISTER](#)*

#### **Care Packages to Roca**

The list of those detained continues to grow.

Roca de Refugio is inviting the rest of the conference to provide care packages for families who have a loved one in detention or in the deportation process.

Possible items include:

For adults: Cozy socks, cookies, hot chocolate, tea, mugs, candles, face masks, lotions, a journal and a pen, notes of support, etc.

For tweens and teens: self-care items, fashion accessories, games, crafts, etc.

For kids: Stuffed animals, cozy socks, a soft blanket, candy, cookies, a coloring book or notebook and pen, an activity book (with no or little English), etc.

Email Cheryl: [administrator@mountainstatesmc.org](mailto:administrator@mountainstatesmc.org) to request the name and info of the next family on the list, and you (or your church, or a couple of your friends with you) can send them some love. Thank you for your support!

A march for Peace and Justice in support of our immigrant community will take place on February 28th in San Antonio, TX. We march For humane and just immigration policies; For families to stay together For an end to fear, hate, and violence; For a future rooted in love and community. Immigrants are our neighbors, co-workers, classmates, and family members Join us as we raise our voices for peace, justice, and compassion for all. Starts Saturday, February 28th at 9 AM See poster for details.

Organized by [Nuevos Vecinos](#)

#### **ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP**

Register NOW for Snow Camp.

Be inspired by singing and worshipping with other youth, slide down the tube run, play a competitive game of broom hockey, explore beautiful scenery around camp, and more!

Snow Camps are intended for youth to attend with their church youth group, with one leader for every five youth, to provide adequate supervision.

[Senior High Registration](#) for February 13-15

[Scrapbook Retreat, \(Jan. 30-Feb.1\)](#) This your opportunity to create paper or digital photo books and share ideas and good conversation with other scrapbook participants. Lisa Longacher will return as our program resource for the retreat and help facilitate a variety of activities. Please come for retreat and community in God's creation here at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. Register online ([www.rmmc.org](http://www.rmmc.org)) and save a space to join in.

**Save the date** for our assembly: July 24-26, 2026, in beautiful Boulder, CO.

#### **Now Hiring**

Boulder Mennonite Church seeks a full-time Transitional Minister for a 9-15 month timeframe. The Transitional Minister will support ongoing congregational ministry and will provide leadership for congregational self-study, identity, vision, and structure work. To learn more, please visit the church website [here](#) and the Transitional Minister job description [here](#). For inquiries, contact Amy Zimbelman at [amyz@mountainstatesmc.org](mailto:amyz@mountainstatesmc.org).